

CITIPOINTE CHURCH DECLARATION OF FAITH

As an expression of our commitment to historic Christianity, the Church holds to both the Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed as foundational Christian beliefs. These ancient creeds represent faithful summaries of essential biblical truths that have united Christians across denominations and centuries. The Church expresses these beliefs in the following statements:

SECTION 1

GOD: HOLY TRINITY

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three equally divine yet distinct Persons. This is commonly known as the Holy Trinity: God the Father, Jesus God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God is the creator and Ruler over all things, perfect all loving and holy, sovereign over all creation and history, and is therefore worthy of all glory and worship.

Genesis 1:1,26, Matthew 28:19, John 1:1-5, Revelation 4:8-11, Ephesians 1:11

THE FATHER: FATHER GOD

The Father is fully God, co-equal and co-eternal with the Son and the Holy Spirit. He so loved the world that He gave His son Jesus to die for our redemption. It is only through Jesus that we can come to Him. He sent forth the Holy Spirit to help us live in and for Him. We can pray to Him and He hears and answers our prayers according to His will.

Matthew 28:19, John 3:16, John 14:16–17, 1 John 5:14–15

JESUS: OUR LORD AND SAVIOR

Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and is co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Jesus, born of a virgin birth, became a man in flesh, lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of humanity by dying on a cross. He arose bodily from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death, triumph over Satan and all spiritual forces of evil, and to validate that the way of salvation is through Him alone. Through His death and resurrection, He has disarmed the powers and authorities, making a public spectacle of them and triumphing over them. He ascended bodily to heaven, where He was delegated all authority and will one day return again to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Matthew 1:22-23, Isaiah 9:6, John 1:1-5, John 14:10-30, Hebrews 4:14-15, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Romans 1:1-6, Acts 1:9-11, John 14:6, 1 Timothy 6:12-16, Titus 2:13-14

THE HOLY SPIRIT: OUR HELPER

The Holy Spirit is fully God, co-equal with both the Father and the Son. He is present in the world to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also indwells every believer from the moment of salvation, providing the Christian with power for Christian living, ministry,

understanding of God's Word, comfort through trials and guidance in doing what is right. The Christian seeks to be led by the Spirit daily.

2 Corinthians 3:17, John 16:7-13, 14:16-17, Acts 1:8, 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16, Ephesians 1:13, Titus 3:5, John 14:26, Galatians 5:22-23, 25

THE BIBLE: HOW WE KNOW GOD

The Bible is the verbal, plenary, inspired word of God for humanity about Himself, revealing His will, nature, character, being and grace by virtue of His saving work of love in the world. The sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments comprise the totality of the Inspired Scripture and were penned without error in their original language by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, serving as our highest written authority in this world. We believe that human beings do not have to guess or speculate about who God is or what He is like. While the Bible is for us, it is not primarily about us. Instead, we believe that all of Scripture ultimately points to and climaxes in Jesus, who is the Word become flesh. We are called to enjoy, study, and submit to the Word of God.

2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21, Luke 24:27, John 1:1, 14

HUMANITY: BEAUTIFUL AND BROKEN

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image and placed them in the Garden of Eden to live out their identity as His creation in loving harmony with Himself and one another. However, Adam and Eve chose to rebel against God, believing Satan's lie that they could instead become like God. This is when sin entered the world, marring our relationship with God, one another, and ourselves. We are sinners by nature and by choice and our sin has alienated us from God, placing us rightfully under His just and Holy wrath. Incapable of regaining a right relationship with God through our own efforts, our greatest need is the undeserved love of this same God, who alone can rescue us from sin and restore the relationship between Himself and us.

Genesis 1:27, 3:1-7, Psalms 8:3-6, Romans 5:12, 19, Isaiah 59:1-2, Romans 3:23, Ephesians 2:1-3, 1 John 4:10

THE GOSPEL: GOD SAVES SINNERS

Although people are completely sinful, God had a plan in place to lovingly save and redeem a people for Himself. Throughout the Old Testament, we read what God will do to save His people from their sins. In the New Testament, we see this plan fulfilled in Jesus Christ who came and lived a perfect life of obedience before God, died in our place by being crucified for our sins, and was raised from the dead on the third day. Through His death and resurrection, Christ achieved victory over Satan, sin, death, and all the powers of darkness, liberating us from bondage to these spiritual forces and demonstrating His supreme authority over all creation. This is the "gospel" or "good news". The Holy Spirit draws us to Christ our Saviour and gives us faith to believe in Him. "Whoever believes that Jesus is Lord and that God raised him from the dead will be saved." The gospel alone is the power of God for salvation. It is the inexhaustible promise that satisfies our restlessness by restoring us into

relationship with God, giving us eternal life with Him both now and forever. Salvation cannot be earned or achieved through our good works, only received as a gift of grace.

Ephesians 1:4-5, Isaiah 53:1-11, Hebrews 2:9, 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Titus 3:5-6, 2 Timothy 2:25, Romans 10:13, Romans 1:16, Ephesians 2:4-9, Colossians 2:15, 1 John 3:8, Hebrews 2:14-15

THE CHURCH: GOD'S PEOPLE

We believe that in the confession and true repentance of our sins to Jesus, we are now seen by God as totally blameless and holy in our relationship with God. No longer children of wrath, by grace we have become children of God whom God sees in the same way that He sees His Son, the Lord Jesus. This is what the church calls "justification." Following justification, the Holy Spirit begins the lifelong process of sanctification, progressively conforming believers to the image of Christ through the Word, prayer, fellowship, and the circumstances of life. While we are declared righteous in justification, sanctification is the ongoing work of becoming holy in practice. The community of people who believe this are "the church." So, while our new relationship with God is personal, it is not individual – we have been adopted into God's family. We believe that we are to gather together in large and small settings to worship God, proclaim and celebrate the gospel, and share our lives together for His glory. The church is responsible for maintaining biblical doctrine, exercising loving discipline when necessary to restore fallen members, and fulfilling the Great Commission.

Hebrews 10:14, Ephesians 2:19-22, Romans 5:1, 1 Peter 2:9-10, Acts 2:42-47, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Matthew 18:15-17

THE SACRAMENTAL ORDINANCES: BAPTISM & HOLY COMMUNION

We believe that Jesus gave His church two primary ordinances to be observed regularly: water baptism and Holy Communion. By repentance of sin and faith in Jesus, the Bible instructs us to be baptized in water by immersion as a picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Baptism is the outward demonstration of our inward change of heart; therefore, we baptise confessing believers who have willingly trusted themselves to Christ. Holy Communion is a regular observance the church shares together as a reminder that Jesus alone is the Saviour who died on the cross, in our place, for our sins, to bring us to God. The bread represents Christ's body that was broken and the cup represents His blood that was shed for us.

Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 2:38, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Corinthians 11:25-26, Matthew 26:26-29

MARRIAGE

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one, legitimate meaning, and that is marriage sanctioned by God, which joins one man and one woman in a single, covenantal union as delineated by Scripture from the Bible. Marriage ceremonies performed in any facility owned, leased, or rented by this Church will be only those ceremonies sanctioned by God, joining one man with one woman as their gender was determined at birth. Whenever there is a

conflict between the Church's position and any new legal standard for marriage, the Church's statement of faith, doctrines and biblical positions will govern.

Genesis 2:24; Ephesians 5:22-23; Mark 10:6-9; 1 Corinthians 7:1-9

THE RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS

We believe in the personal, glorious, bodily, and imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ in fulfilling the prophetic word. We trust in God's promise that a day is coming when He will banish sin, sickness, death, decay, and Satan. Those who have rejected Jesus will be eternally separated from Him in hell, while those who have accepted the immeasurable gift of His forgiveness will receive eternal life with Him. When Jesus returns, He will usher in the New Heavens and New Earth where we will worship and dwell with Him forever.

Revelation 19:11-16, Acts 3:20-21, Revelation 21:1-5

Citipointe Church Nashville & Franklin TN, USA

www.citipointe.church